



# SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

## MEETING

Committee Meetings

1:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Board of Supervisors

9:00 a.m.

Friday, May 24, 2019

2nd Floor

J.S. Clark Administration Building  
Southern University and A&M College  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana



Southern University and A&M College

# CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

to the  
Southern University Board of Supervisors

May 2019

*"We Are Southern"*

Report No. 10

## INSIDE

- **HBCU Day at the Capitol**
- **Commencement 2019: A Special Day for Graduates and SU**
- **Melanie Walker Selected as the 2019 Chancellor Scholar**
- **SU Leads Effort to Provide Affordable Learning Solutions**
- **Library Poetry Contest Winners Announced**
- **First Lady and Office of the President Launch Wellness Day**
- **Southern Wins \$50,000 Grant from Home Depot**





# Commencement 2019: A Special Day for Graduates and SU

After turning their respective tassels, nearly 600 graduates walked across the coveted stage in the F.G. Clark Activity Center to receive their degrees, including 11 Ph.D. recipients.

Chief student marshal Chacity Simmons led fellow graduates to receive bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in several disciplines, as well as commissions to the U.S. Armed Forces. The university awarded Doctor of Philosophy degrees in environmental toxicology, science and mathematics education, public policy and urban forestry. In addition, 145 students received master's degrees.

The newest alumni heard from the critically acclaimed actor Omar J. Dorsey who delivered the commencement address.

"Today, metaphorically, is your finish line," Dorsey said. "When you walk across this stage today, this is your platform and that



**Omar J. Dorsey**  
degree is your gold medal."

Dorsey, a theatre graduate of Georgia State University, plays "Hollywood" on "Queen Sugar," a drama created by award-winning director Ava DuVernay that airs on the Oprah Winfrey Network. Dorsey told the graduates to not rush through the phases of their journey.

"Consider this college journey when you started," he said. "Consider the people you started with. Some are not here

today. Some gave up. Some needed more time. Others had their reasons. But, in a marathon, it's about going at your own pace and finishing at your time."

Dorsey reflected on his own career — which includes roles in "Django Unchained" and "Selma" — encouraged graduates to continue to have patience, live in their own lane and understand their timing.

The Honorable Lionel L. Joseph was awarded an honorary doctorate degree. Joseph graduated from Southern University in 1972 with a B.S. degree and from Southeastern Louisiana University in 1974 with his master's degree. He served on the Independence Board of Aldermen for 24 years and currently serves on the Tangipahoa Parish Council representing District 3. He is a lifetime member of Southern University alumni associations.



Members of the Class of 1969



Dozens of alumni were celebrated, including members of the Class of 1969 and the Class of 1964. Also marching across the stage were several legacy graduates. Marcus Magee was recognized as a third - generation graduate. In the audience was his father, Jerome Magee, who graduated in 1986 and grandfather Melvin Magee who earned a B.S. degree in chemistry from Southern University in 1955.

D'Antonio Daigre was also recognized as a legacy graduate. His grandparents, David and Irma Ginn, have earned a combined five degrees from Southern and have been football season ticket holders since 1976. His mother, Michelle Ginn Daigre, also earned two degrees from Southern University.

Also recognized were the descendants of Wilbert and Amelia Ferdinand of Port Allen. Seven of their eight children received degrees from Southern. Alesha Murphy and Riyon Jack were the descendants in the 2019 Class, making a total number of 29 direct descendants of the Ferdinands who earned degrees from Southern.

As tradition has it, graduates took the Southern University Alumni Federation pledge, promising to remain committed to the university's progress.



More than 600 students received degrees including 10 who received Ph.D.s.



Louis "Nick" Joseph was awarded the honorary doctorate.



Chacity Simmons



Members of the Class of 1964

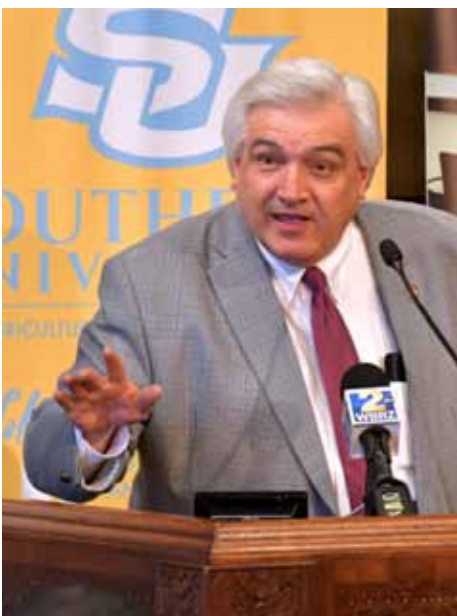




## HBCU DAY

Southern University System, along with other Louisiana historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) hosted HBCU Day at the Capitol on April 24 starting at 7 a.m.

This advocacy event took place during the legislative session. Other participating schools were Grambling State University, Xavier University and Dillard University. Schools had displays around the rotunda showcasing various academic and organizational units. Faculty, students, staff, community members, and alumni were invited to attend and participate.





# Melanie Walker Selected as 2019 Chancellor's Scholar

Southern University and A&M College recognized Melanie Walker, a 21-year-old nursing major, as its Chancellor's Scholar during the Annual Academic Honors Day Awards Program where James Chavis, supplier program manager at Boeing, served as keynote speaker.

Walker who is minoring in psychology, has a 3.77 grade point average. She is a historian of the Student Nurses' Association, a member of the Oncology Nurses' Association, American Nursing Association, Honors Student Association, Beta Kappa Chi, and the National Institute of Science. She is also a Honors College Ambassador.

"She is ambitious, devoted, and prepared to represent Southern University in all arenas," said Dr. James H. Ammons who presented the award on behalf of Ray Belton, President-Chancellor.

Walker is a published author and has been presented with the opportunity to get published in the online database for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and by Springer Publishing Company. Walker is working on her thesis titled, "The Importance of Peer Mentorship during Nursing School for African American Students: An Integrative Literature Review."

She has accepted a job at Tulane Medical Center in New Orleans. Her goal is to be a certified registered nurse anesthetist, nurse researcher, and innovator.

The presentation was only one of the highlights of the Convocation. Chavis, a native of Itta Bena, delivered the keynote address for the awards program. Chavis earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering from Southern University. He also has numerous certifications in Lean Six Sigma and Contract Management. He spoke to students about having a vision. He told them that once you make your plans, you must put the plan into action.



James Chavis

"Implementing the plan, is the most crucial part of success," said Chavis. "Most people have visions and plans, but never act on their plans because of fear of failure."

Chavis said the last step of this process is to produce.

"One must be willing to put in the work in order to make the vision, the plan, and implementation a reality," he said. "To be successful, you have to work as hard as you can even when the tasks seem impossible," he said. "It will be the work that you produce that will define you. Your name and reputation will be judged by the works that you do. I encourage you to work with integrity, diligence, and thoroughness. For you are not only representing yourself, you are paving the way for those who will come after you."

Mr. Chavis has held many positions during his professional career: Engineer, Adjunct Professor, and Welder, with more than 13 years of experience in the field of Engineering. The vast majority of his experience has been in the oil and gas industry where he held key positions such as: Repair Process Engineer of the Western Hemisphere and Principal Reliability Engineer for North America Drilling and Exploration for Baker Hughes Inc. He has managed numerous multimillion-dollar projects domestically and internationally.





The HBCU Summit was well attended by the SU System with eLearning Directors and leadership from SUSLA, SUNO and SUBR. From left to right are: Mary Adewunmi (SUBR/SMED); Sha Director Library), Tracy Barley (SUBR eLearning Director); Herron-

Williams, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at SUSLA; Veronica McEachin (SUSLA Director eLearning); and Gwendolyn Tennell (SUSLA – eLearning Unit)

## Southern Leads Effort to Provide Affordable Learning Solutions

President Ray Belton received the Executive Leadership Award from the HBCU Affordable Learning Solutions Network during the 3rd Annual meeting of the HBCUs Affordable Learning and Quality Online Program held this year in Denver, Colorado on April 2-5, 2019.

The President-Chancellor of the SUS was recognized for his contribution to the launching of the HBCUs Affordable Learning Solution (AL\$) Network in 2007 in New Orleans, Louisiana, and for the pioneering role in enabling the deployment of the Southern University Open Library for Education (suol4ed.org).

This partnership, initiated by Professor Moustapha Diack, led to the launching of Affordable Learning Solutions, the Southern University Open Library (SUOL) for (4) Education (Ed) [suol4ed.org]. The Southern University System of Louisiana is the first Louisiana Higher Education System and the first HBCU in America to have deployed an OER Digital Library for Education. The Library Holdings are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and repurposing by others. OER include full courses, course materials, modules, open textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge.

The HBCUs Summit pre-conference workshop was invitation

only. The program included an overview of the AL\$ program; the Hewlett Foundations vision on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusiveness and OER; how to leverage Cal State University-MERLOT’s services, HBCUs sharing their lessons learned on implementing their own AL\$ program; and activities for workshop participants to begin planning their strategies for adopting and customizing an AL\$ program for their campus. The afternoon of the pre-conference included a presentation and hands-on activities with “Apple’s Everyone Can Code Program”.



Dr. Sharron Herron-Williams, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at SUSLA – receiving President Belton Award from Prof. Moustapha Diack (SUS), HBCU Summit Chair; Dr. Gerry Hanley (CSU) HBCU Summit Co-Chair; and Dr. Robbie Melton (Tennessee State) HBCU Summit Chair



# Library Recognizes Winners of Poetry Contest



In the photo from left to right: Bijoy Sahoo, Senior Associate V.C for Academic Affairs; Rene Richichi, 1st place winner, New Orleans Center for Creative Arts; Myracle Lewis, 2nd place winner, Baton Rouge Magnet High School; Kendrick Ross, 3rd place winner, McKinley High School; Donnatella Henry, 4th place winner, New Orleans Center for Creative Arts; Jack Bedell, Guest speaker, Poet Laureate of Louisiana and Professor of English and Coordinator of Creative Writing at Southeastern University; and Emma Bradford Perry, dean of Libraries.

The winners have been announced for the Pinkie Gordon Lane 9th Annual Poetry Contest Awards Program. The winners were: Rene Richichi, 1st place winner, New Orleans Center for Creative Arts; Myracle Lewis, 2nd place winner, Baton Rouge Magnet High School; Kendrick Ross, 3rd place winner, McKinley High School; Donnatella Henry, 4th place winner, New Orleans Center for Creative Arts; Dr. Pinkie Gordon Lane was the first African-American to be named Louisiana's Poet

Laureate from 1989- 1993. She served as chair of the English Department at Southern for 27 years until she retired in 1986. This poetry contest is held in Dr. Lane's honor and is open to all Louisiana high school students. According to Emma Perry, dean of Libraries, the Library also uses the program as a recruitment tool. The Admission Office sets up a table with information for students interested in attending Southern.



Southern University celebrated Naïve Art and Foreign Language Week recently, which included presentations and educational outreach.



## Louis "Nick" Joseph Awarded Honorary Degree

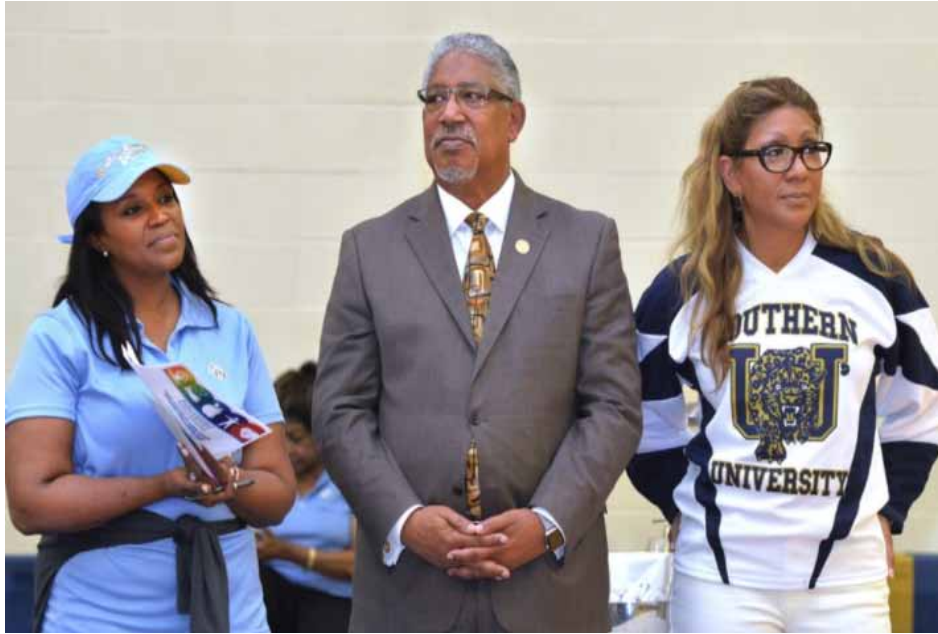
Louis "Nick" Joseph, a Southern University graduate who has made a lasting and positive impact on his community, the state and the nation, was awarded an honorary degree during the Spring 2019 Commencement Exercises.

Upon graduating from Sunshine High School in 1964, Joseph enlisted into the U.S. Army and completed a tour of duty in Vietnam serving with the 173rd Airborne Brigade. Upon discharged, he joined the Louisiana Army National Guard and retired after 34 years of service, holding the rank of chief warrant officer.

He began his teaching career in 1972 at Westside Middle School in Amite, Louisiana. During Joseph's 32-year tenure as an educator in the Tangipahoa Parish School System, he served as a teacher, principal, supervisor, director of administration, assistant superintendent and superintendent.

In addition, Joseph served on the Independence Board of Aldermen for 24 years and is currently serving his third term on the Tangipahoa Parish Council representing District 3.





## Faculty and Staff Wellness Day

SU System first lady, Norma Belton, hosted this year's Faculty and Staff Wellness Day: The event was dedicated to promoting healthy living and wellness. Vendors, including massage therapist, beauty experts and fitness trainers, were present to offer services to recipients. During the event, Shire Major, executive assistant in the Office of Academic Affairs, won a year's fitness meal plan with fitness trainer and nutritionist Britney Temple, a graduate of Southern University Laboratory School.





# Southern Wins \$50,000 Grant from Home Depot

Southern University has been awarded a \$50,000 campus improvement grant through The Home Depot: Retool Your School Grant Program. This program awards historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) grants to make sustainable improvements to their campuses. At the end of the competition, the top three schools with the most votes are considered for a grant. With the outpour of support from the community and our student and alumni groups, the university was fortunate to win a grant for a second year.

This year's grant will be used in the beautification of the iconic, popular part of the Bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. The project will include new seating, lighting, and more. The Bluff is a great asset for the campus community and also frequent visitors to campus due to being a part of a number of regional and national historic trails and districts. Last year, the university won a \$40,000 grant through the program, which was used to remodel and



update the John B. Cade Library which experienced flood damage during the 2018 Christmas holiday break. The grant was

used to purchase new furniture and restore study areas.



## A Winning Strategy

Southern University defeated neighboring university Louisiana State University (LSU) in baseball on   
ore was  
7-2. This was the thir  
56-game history between the teams that Southern beat LSU.





Student Union



Shade Resident Hall



White Resident Hall

## Fireside Chats Provide Insight on Student Experience at Southern

More than 100 questions surfaced during the Spring 2019 Fireside Chats from students, primarily freshmen, who wanted to know about planned improvements, academic experiences, support services, work requests for residential facilities, customer service efforts and a host of other campus-related matters.

"The chats provided the administration with an instant opportunity to address student issues and connect with them," said Kimberly Scott, vice chancellor for Student Affairs.

Implemented by Dr. James H. Ammons, executive vice president/executive vice chancellor, with the assistance of Student Affairs, the chats were designed to find out if there were issues that freshmen had that would impact their return to Southern University in the fall. President-Chancellor Ray Belton attended the sessions and sponsored the refreshments. Administrators agreed to continue the chats in the upcoming academic year. The chats with the administration were scheduled at Totty, Shade, White, and Boley Residence Hall; and the Student Union.

# Dr. Stubblefield Receives System's Life-Time Achievement Award

On April 16, 2019 the Southern University Ag Center's 15th Annual "Connecting Businesses with Contracts' Procurement Conference" was held in the Felton G. Clark Activity Center. The annual conference provides a venue for potential and existing business owners, contractors, non-profits, small towns, and municipalities to learn about the resources that are available through federal, state and local government agencies and prime companies.

Co-sponsors for the conference include the U. S. Small Business Administration, Louisiana Small Business Development Center at Southern University, Louisiana Economic Development (LED), and the Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC).

This year's conference featured an inaugural ceremony to recognize excellence in Partnering, Research, Innovation, Development (business/economic) and Entrepreneurship (P.R.I.D.E.). This event also highlighted Outstanding Researchers, the Rising Star in Research, Outstanding Researcher of the Year, and the Exceptional Star in Technology Transfer at an awards ceremony on Monday, April 15, 2019 at 6:30pm at Hayden Hall Theater.

The P.R.I.D.E. awards began in 1997 as part of a Baton Rouge campus initiative by the Office of Research and Strategic Initiatives and the Office of Sponsored Programs (under the direction of Dr. Robert Ford and Dr. Emmanuel Osagie) to recognize faculty members who excelled in research.

Ms. Lauren McCoy, Fox 44 Evening Anchor, served as Hostess for the evening. Dr. Robyn Merrick was in attendance to bring greetings from the System's Office and presented the Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of the System Board



chairman to Michael Stubblefield, vice chancellor for research and strategic initiatives.

Dr. Stubblefield, who has a Ph.D. in engineering science in 1997 from Louisiana State University and a bachelor's degree from Southern University, has been a faculty member at Southern University for more than 20 years. He was named Vice Chancellor for Research and Strategic Initiatives in 2007. Dr. Stubblefield has also served as Director of the Center for Energy and Environmental Studies (nine years) and Director of the Center for Information and Technology Innovation (five years) and has more than 60 publications and/or presentations. He has an impressive research, education, outreach, and contracting track record with over \$30 million dollars in grants or contracts funded during his tenure at Southern University.

Dr. Stubblefield has been a past recipient of one SU Grantsmanship Silver Club award, three (3) Most Funded Proposals

Awards, and four (4) Millionaire Club Awards. He was also a 2001 Inductee into the SU Young Faculty Award: Science, Mathematics, Engineering, & Technology Hall of Fame at Southern University, Baton Rouge. He has served on several University, State Education, and National Research committees, panels and boards such as the Louisiana Board of Regents Sponsored Programs Advisory Board, and the National Science Foundation's Proposal Reviewer Panel. He has also chaired or co-chaired committees such as the Southern University Strategic Planning Committee, Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI), Oak Ridge Associated Universities, HBCU/MI and the East Baton Rouge Planning Commission for Brownfields. He has distinguished himself in the Greater Baton Rouge Area with acknowledgements such as the 2004 Baton Rouge Business Report's Top Forty Under Forty and appointment to the Governor's Transition Higher Education Group of the Economic Growth Transition Advisory Council in 2007.



Chancellor's Report:  
May 2019



SOUTHERN  
UNIVERSITY

L A W C E N T E R

SERIOUSNESS OF PURPOSE

[WWW.SULC.EDU](http://WWW.SULC.EDU)

# Events

## 2019 ALUMNI & FRIENDS ROUND-UP



The Southern University Law Center honored its exemplary alumni during its 2019 Alumni & Friends Round-up held during the first week of April each year. The week of activities include continuing legal education workshops, student development events, awards ceremonies, and a golf tournament held at Copper Mill Golf Club, which was postponed to May 11, 2019 due to weather conditions.

This year, three judges and 13 attorneys from across the country were recognized during the Judicial Wall of Fame Unveiling Ceremony, the Distinguished Alumni Reception, and the Alumni Hall of Fame Gala.

### JUDICIAL WALL OF FAME

On April 4, 2019, during an afternoon ceremony in the Bert & Sue Turner Gallery of the Shaw Center, the Southern University Law Center inducted three judges into the SULC Judicial Wall of Fame.



From left to right: the Honorable Tonya Jones, '11, Harris County Criminal Court #15; Honorable Michael Bellamy, '76, Alabama 26<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court; and the Honorable D. Nicole Sheppard, '05, Orleans Parish Civil District Court.



# Events

## 2019 ALUMNI & FRIENDS ROUND-UP

### DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

During an evening reception on the River Terrace at the Shaw Center, Chancellor John K. Pierre recognized eight alums for their professional achievements, and support of the Law Center.



*From left to right:* Brian Jackson, '05, Laner Muchin; Robin Raasch, '12, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld; Paula Hartley Clayton, '91, Attorney at Law; Harry L. Daniels, III, '07, Daniels and Washington Law Firm; Kavitha Akula, '07, Akula & Associates; Carl A. Moore, '06, The Law Office of Carl A. Moore; Deidre Deculus Robert, '00, Southern University System General Counsel; Daryl Washington, '99, The Washington Law Firm; and Chancellor John K. Pierre.

## 2019 ALUMNI & FRIENDS ROUND-UP

### ALUMNI HALL OF FAME GALA

Five alums were inducted into the Southern University Law Center Hall of Fame during an evening gala held at the Renaissance Hotel.



***From left to right:*** Donald Ray Dobbins, '89, The Dobbins Law Firm; Honorable Keith A. Doley, '87, Attorney at Law; Dinisa Hardley Folmar, '99, The Hershey Company; Marlon V. Harrison, '82, Harrison Law Firm, and Southeastern Management and Consulting Group; and Attorney Donald W. North, '83, SULC Professor.



# Events

## Elder Law & Abuse Prevention Summit

Southern University Law Center held its third Elder Law & Abuse Prevention Summit on Friday, April 12, 2019 at the St. Mary's Baptist Church in North Baton Rouge. Legal experts, Cynthia Reed, Linda Melancon, and Betty Raglin presented on a host of issues facing elderly communities such as: financial exploitation, wills, power of attorney, and public benefits to pay for long-term care.



*Above left to right: Attorneys Linda Melancon and Betty Raglin presenting at on legacy and long-term care.*

*Right: Professor Cynthia Reed presents on wills, trusts, & successions*



# Partnerships & Collaborations



The Urban Restoration Enhancement Corporation College & Career Ready Pre-Law Institute scholars for facilitated a mock mock trial, demonstrating the knowledge and skills learned throughout the institute.

The annual Pre-Law Institute follows a 14-week curriculum modified from the Education Development Center's Law and Justice Program, which introduces students to civics, law, and the criminal justice system, while affording them the opportunity to study under instructors who are law students at SULC. Scholars also gain practical experience during the program, which includes studying at the SULC, facilitating a mock-trial at the law center's state-of-the-art moot court and networking with Baton Rouge attorneys and judges



# Partnerships & Collaborations

## Visit to Tunica-Biloxi Reservation



In an effort to continuously nurture the relationship between Southern University Law Center and the Indian Tribes of Louisiana, Professor Crepelle and students visited the Reservation of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe Re. The Tunica and Biloxi Indians have lived on their reservation near Marksville for over two centuries. The students experienced a tour of the reservation, an introduction to Tunica-Biloxi language center, and a view of the reservations' preserve and restoration laboratory.

The partnership is working to host the Louisiana Rural and Economic Development Summit (LaRuE) in July which will be held at the Paragon Resort in Marksville, LA. For more information, visit [sulc.edu/LaRuE](http://sulc.edu/LaRuE).

# Faculty Spotlight

## Professor Deleso Alford Continues Groundbreaking Scholarship



Professor Alford delivered her stimulating research to the Health Science Center Office for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion cohorts, in partnership with the UNM Division for Equity & Inclusion and the UNM School of Law. She served the Spring 2019 Distinguished Diversity Scholar, speaking on *Enhancing Wellness By Honoring Our Humanity*.

Professor Alford is a Shreveport, Louisiana native and Visiting Professor of Law at Southern University Law Center and Adjunct Faculty and Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Central Florida

Professor Alford is doing ground-breaking work bridging legal and medical education by telling stories—what she refers to as "HER stories"—the unique and particularized lived experiences of black women intersecting with health care and research. She has moved her scholarship into classrooms, benefiting both law and medical students with her racially inflected lessons.

Professor Alford's forthcoming book, *Tuskegee's Forgotten Women: The Untold Side of the U.S. Public Health Services Syphilis Study*, sheds light on how women were directly involved in and/or impacted by the U.S. Public Health Services Syphilis Study. This book offers an acknowledgment of the importance of women's voices, and especially black women's voices, in history.



# Student Spotlight

## 1L Halari Vargas Organizes Rancher Relief Project



First year law student, Halari Vargas, organized the Southern Rancher Relief Project, and started the Flying V Foundation. The foundation is focused on helping others in agriculture industry after her father passed away.

The Flying V Foundation has partnered with Southern University's Dr. Renita Marshall, Chair of the Department of Ag, the Ag Center, SU's Research and Extension and the College of Ag, and SU's Institute for One Health One Medicine on a disaster relief effort to get hay and fencing supply donations to ranchers in Nebraska affected by the bomb cyclone.

The Louisiana Educational Advancement Project has arranged to have an 18-wheeler help haul 100 round bales collected and donated by the St. Tammany Parish 4-H to assist Vargas in her efforts.

The group has set a goal to collect donations from at least 155 people, of just \$20. They are also accepting donations of livestock feed and fencing supplies, and are looking for volunteer drivers with flatbed trailers to haul the remaining bales of hay. Vargas' efforts have been featured on WVLA 9, WVLA 33, and will also be featured on the Louisiana Farm Bureau's shows, *This Week in Louisiana Agriculture* and the *Voice of Louisiana Agriculture*, who will also be shooting footage of the truck departure next week.

# THE **chancellor's** **REPORT**

MAY 2019



**C. Reuben Walker**  
*Interim  
Chancellor-Dean*

**Retia Walker**  
*Vice Chancellor for  
Academic & Student Support  
Services/Associate Dean*

**Andra Johnson**  
*Vice Chancellor for  
Research & Technology  
Development*

**Dawn Mellion-Patin**  
*Vice Chancellor for  
Extension & Outreach*



# MESSAGE

from the *Interim Chancellor Dean*

The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SUAREC) and College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS) are having a banner year of activities accomplished and a plethora of activities planned.

I would like to say congratulations to the 32 CAFCS students who graduated during Southern University's May 10, 2019 Commencement.

I am also grateful to report that the SUAREC and the CAFCS are rising globally with our Uganda and South African Initiatives.

Conversely, we are gearing up with at least three (3) summer high school programs for youth having an interest in the agricultural, family, and consumer sciences areas.

Drs. Zhu Ning, Fatemeh Malekian, and Yaw Ywumasi were recognized at the University level for their prolific research and publication efforts. They are rising from excellence to preeminence. Dr. Renita Woods Marshall provided the availability and facilitation of our experiment station for storage and housing of donations for disaster victims in Nebraska. In addition, Dr. Marshall also led the affording in picked up donations and cutting of hay for the disaster relief effort. This goodwill effort received television coverage. Dr. Retia Walker, our Vice Chancellor for Student Support Services and Associate Dean, is retiring on May 31, 2019. She is currently leading our strategic planning effort and has served us with eloquence, grace, and dignity. She will be missed.

I thank our custodial workers at SUAREC and CAFCS on the work they do. Concomitantly, I am prayerful that

Drs. Lynda Batiste; Oscar Udoh; and Mrs. Belinda Mack, our underpaid diamonds in the rough, will be soon compensated. They are the cornerstones of our federal and state compliance matters. If we lose these individuals, it would be a tremendous loss to the SUAREC and CAFCS. Under President-Chancellor Dr. Ray Belton and Executive Vice President /Executive Vice Chancellor Dr. James Ammons, I am feeling positive that we can hold on to these quiet and professional stalwarts.

Antonio Harris was recognized as the Southern University System (SUS) Above and Beyond Award Recipient for April 2019. He is an "affable person" who enables others to succeed. He is the Director of the Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development Institute (SARDI) headquartered in Opelousas, Louisiana. Antonio is a "top shelf" recruiter for the Agricultural Sciences Department. He earned his B.S. degree in Animal Science from SUBR in 1984 and an M.S. in Nutritional Sciences from the University of Connecticut. He is the son of Aaron Harris (retired SU Law Center Professor and Associate Dean of the Law Center). His mother is Rosa B. Harris. Antonio is married to Ann Harris, (an SU Alum) and they have six (6) children. Two of those children - Arlis Harris, a freshman and Alyx Harris, a senior - are currently enrolled in the CAFCS.

The SUAREC and CAFCS Family are looking forward to a wonderful summer, and we wish that God continues to keep His angels encamped around the Jaguar Nation.

All the very best,

*C. Reuben Walker*



# from the

## *Vice Chancellor for Extension & Outreach*

### April Showers Bring May Flowers

April has been a very exciting month for the Cooperative Extension Program. We started the month with a very informative Personal Health History Workshop. Dr. Jay Hollman, a local cardiologist, was the keynote speaker and he stressed the importance of Heart Health and Exercise. As soon as that event was over, we hosted the Jaguar Rodeo and Trail Ride. The community really supported this event as we hosted over 300 trail riders and rodeo enthusiasts from across the state of Louisiana, as well as Texas, Mississippi, and Arkansas. The local and very popular zydeco artist, Lil Nate, entertained the audience well into the night. This family-friendly weekend, April 12th – 13th, event was a resounding success!

The very next week was the Procurement Conference, held Tuesday, April 16th. Four hundred plus participants came out to learn about starting their own business or how to secure lucrative, government contracts.

And on the 24th of April, we ended the month with our Spring Garden Workshop. At last count, approximately 125 flower, small and community gardeners enjoyed the day-long training.

The highlight of the month for me was the Extension Employee Training, held April 23rd – 25th. All of the employees, to include those on special grants, convened at the state office for annual updates and training. Drs. C. Reuben Walker and Andra Johnson, both took time out of their schedules to spend a few minutes talking to the extension employees. Representatives from the Finance Unit provided updates related to travel, reimbursements and other

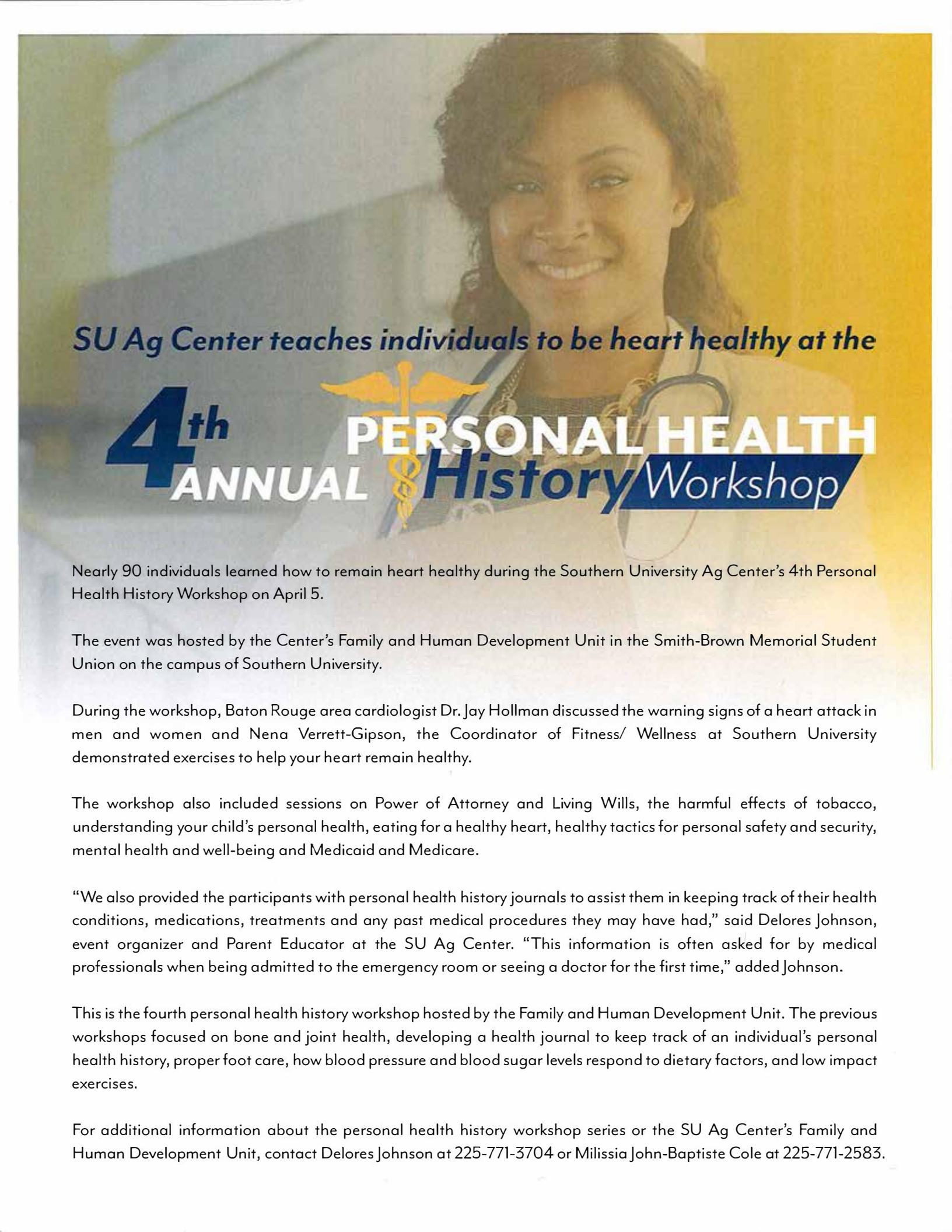


financial matters. Dr. Kasundra Cyrus led the group through the process of developing their individual plans of work and writing impact statements. Dr. Oscar Udoh also shared information on federal reporting requirements. Additionally, representatives from the Louisiana Department of Health came and shared information on Opioid Use / Abuse and Fire Chief, Brad Kelly came to provide information on Fire Prevention as a part of the Emergency Preparedness Training. The agenda allowed time for each of the teams: Agriculture and Natural Resources and Youth Development; Communities of Color Network; Family and Human Development; and Nutrition, Health and Wellness to meet as a team, to discuss programming for the upcoming year. All in all, the Cooperative Extension Program is a much stronger, responsive unit due to this statewide training.

On May 9th, we will have the End of the School Year Bash in Opelousas. This is sure to be a very fun and exciting way to end the school year on a bang. Stay tuned!

*Dawn Mellion-Patin*





*SU Ag Center teaches individuals to be heart healthy at the*

# **4<sup>th</sup>** **PERSONAL HEALTH** **ANNUAL** **History** **Workshop**

Nearly 90 individuals learned how to remain heart healthy during the Southern University Ag Center's 4th Personal Health History Workshop on April 5.

The event was hosted by the Center's Family and Human Development Unit in the Smith-Brown Memorial Student Union on the campus of Southern University.

During the workshop, Baton Rouge area cardiologist Dr. Jay Hollman discussed the warning signs of a heart attack in men and women and Nena Verrett-Gipson, the Coordinator of Fitness/ Wellness at Southern University demonstrated exercises to help your heart remain healthy.

The workshop also included sessions on Power of Attorney and Living Wills, the harmful effects of tobacco, understanding your child's personal health, eating for a healthy heart, healthy tactics for personal safety and security, mental health and well-being and Medicaid and Medicare.

"We also provided the participants with personal health history journals to assist them in keeping track of their health conditions, medications, treatments and any past medical procedures they may have had," said Delores Johnson, event organizer and Parent Educator at the SU Ag Center. "This information is often asked for by medical professionals when being admitted to the emergency room or seeing a doctor for the first time," added Johnson.

This is the fourth personal health history workshop hosted by the Family and Human Development Unit. The previous workshops focused on bone and joint health, developing a health journal to keep track of an individual's personal health history, proper foot care, how blood pressure and blood sugar levels respond to dietary factors, and low impact exercises.

For additional information about the personal health history workshop series or the SU Ag Center's Family and Human Development Unit, contact Delores Johnson at 225-771-3704 or Milissia John-Baptiste Cole at 225-771-2583.





**SU Ag Center hosts exciting**

# Jaguar TRAIL RIDE



More than 300 rodeo enthusiast and trail riders for Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas attended the Southern University Ag Center's 46th Annual Jaguar Trail Ride. The event, which was held April 12 – 13 at the Maurice A. Edmond Livestock Arena, was co-hosted with the It's All About Us Trail Ride Association.

Activities during the Trail Ride included roping, breakaway, tie-down, and barrel racing events; a trail ride; and a concert featuring Lil Nate and the Zydeco Big Timers.

Cash, as well as other prizes, were given to the winners of the events.





# where *Opportunity* **MEETS** business

More than 520 attend SU Ag Center, SBA 15th Annual Procurement Conference

More than 520 small business owners and exhibitors participated in the Southern University Ag Center's 15th Annual 'Connecting Businesses with Contracts' Procurement Conference on April 16, in the Felton G. Clark Activity Center on the Southern University campus.

"The goal of the Procurement Conference is to connect small business owners with contracts that are available through government agencies," said Eual Hall, Interim Director of the Center for Rural and Small Business Development at the SU Ag Center.

"There are many times that small business owners don't know where to go, what to do, or to whom they need to speak to for assistance with their small businesses," said Jo Ann Lawrence, Louisiana

Deputy District Director of the U.S. Small Business Administration. "With this event, small business owners are able to sit down and talk to potential customers, such as federal agencies, state and local government agencies, municipalities and even major prime contractors," added Lawrence.

Several workshops featured during the conference included: How to Get and Market the GSA Schedule/Marketing to the Federal Government; Contracting Opportunities; Getting the Financing You Need; Expanding to Global Markets/Doing Business Internationally; Small Business Resources; and Bridging the Gap: "Identifying the Connection Between Research and Business. There was also a procurement panel consisting of federal, state and local government

agencies and participants were able to network with more than 60 exhibitors.

Adell Brown, Jr., Ph.D., a professor at the Southern University College of Business, was the keynote speaker for the luncheon session at the conference.

"The conference gave us a platform to make valuable connections with small businesses, community leaders and companies who are committed to doing business with Small Business Enterprises and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises," said Shakita Billups, Co-Founder of DreamBoost Consulting, LLC and one of the 60 business exhibitors participating in the conference. "Our objective was to connect with influential people and learn about impactful resources we can maximize to not only grow our business but help us have an even greater impact on the businesses we serve," added Billups.

"We want to see small businesses grow, develop, prosper and continue to remain in business for having been in touch with us and participating in this conference," said Lawrence.

Co-sponsors for the Procurement Conference included the U. S. Small Business Administration, Louisiana Small Business Development Center at Southern University, Louisiana Economic Development (LED), and the Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC).


For additional information, contact Eual Hall at 225.771.4105, Krystle Washington at 225.771.3902, or e-mail [jo.lawrence3@sba.gov](mailto:jo.lawrence3@sba.gov).





# Spring garden WORKSHOP

**draws more than 100 garden enthusiasts**




The Southern University Ag Center's 3rd Annual Spring Garden Workshop drew a crowd of nearly 125 garden and flower enthusiasts. The event was held on April 24 at the Maurice A. Edmond Livestock Arena and hosted by the Center's Wisteria Alliance Program in partnership with the Flower Lovers' Garden Guild and the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program.

The workshop featured interactive sessions on flower production, house plant care, edible landscapes, hibiscus production and hands-on demonstrations on building raised gardening beds, constructing rain barrels, flower arranging, and hydroponics.

"This conference was really beneficial to me," said Ursula Square, who has recently started gardening. "The information that I received on the edible landscaping will help me be able to grow fruit trees at home. What has really got me going has been learning about the raised gardening bed

and how you can find inexpensive ways to actually construct one, such as using cinder blocks," add Square.



"The Spring Garden workshop is an educational program that helps individuals through hands-on gardening, learning techniques, and skills that they can do at their home," said Zanetta Augustine, Assistant Agriculture Specialist, and workshop organizer. "Individuals can come to the workshop and learn how to garden on their own," said Augustine.

The Wisteria Alliance Program prepares women to own and operate their own farms and other agricultural based businesses. It began in 2012 as a pilot program aimed at providing practical, hands-on training for women who live on farms, and those who are interested in starting a farm, and/or urban or community garden.

The Flower Lovers' Garden Guild began on November 20, 1953, with a group of women gathering to organize a club that would enable them to learn more about flowers, to exchange ideas about their culture and to fellowship. In March 1954, the women decided to call the club the "Town and Country Garden Club." In October 1956, the name of the club was changed to the "Flower Lovers' Garden Guild." Its focus is the beautification of the community and homes with flowers and plants.

For additional information, about the Spring Garden Workshop, email [zanetta\\_augustine@suagcenter.com](mailto:zanetta_augustine@suagcenter.com).



# Folsom Residents awarded certification



Eleven Louisiana residents recently received Food Safety Certification under the Southern University Ag Center's, "Enhancing Capacity of Louisiana Small Farms and Businesses," program. The training was held in Folsom, Louisiana, located in St. Tammany Parish. The all-female class included two restaurant co-owners, their workers and family members who were working in the restaurant.

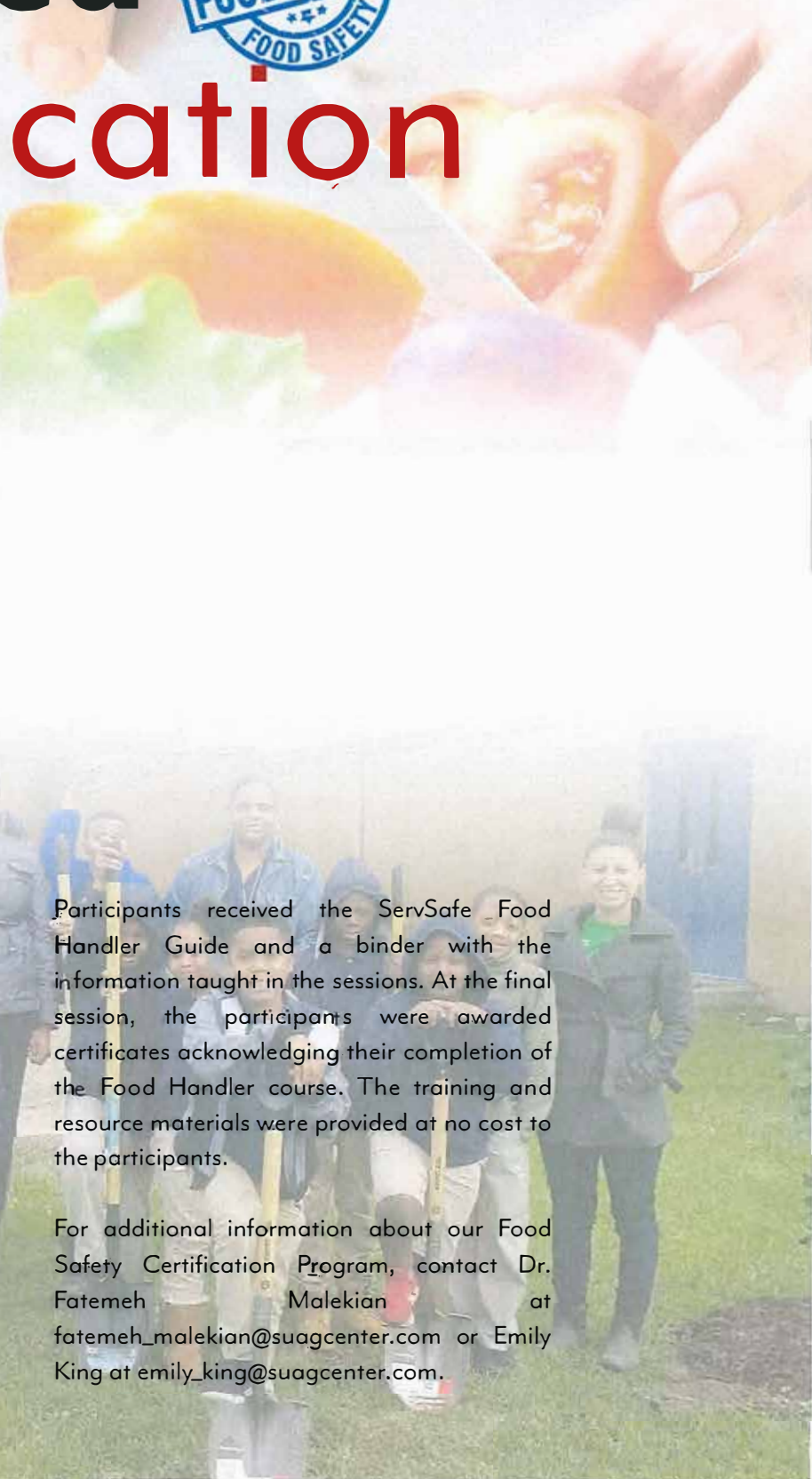
The training in safe food handling was held for five weeks, ending on April 1. The participants learned about the importance of food safety, good personal hygiene, controlling time and temperature, preventing cross-contamination, cleaning and sanitizing.

Dr. Fatemeh Malekian, Professor at the Southern University Ag Center, conducted the training and was assisted by L'Asia George, Research Assistant, and Emily King, Produce Safety Program Coordinator.

William Augustine, Project Coordinator, brought the Mobile Technology Education Center to Folsom on the last class. The Mobile Unit is a full-size bus retrofitted into a mobile classroom. It is furnished with computers, the internet, a projector, and a small kitchen. L'Asia George conducted a food safety/cooking demonstration on the unit, focusing on using proper food safety practices during preparation, cooking, and serving.

Participants received the ServSafe Food Handler Guide and a binder with the information taught in the sessions. At the final session, the participants were awarded certificates acknowledging their completion of the Food Handler course. The training and resource materials were provided at no cost to the participants.

For additional information about our Food Safety Certification Program, contact Dr. Fatemeh Malekian at [fatemeh\\_malekian@suagcenter.com](mailto:fatemeh_malekian@suagcenter.com) or Emily King at [emily\\_king@suagcenter.com](mailto:emily_king@suagcenter.com).



## **SNAP-ED Growing Healthy Program plants container garden at local senior citizen centers**



The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center's SNAP-Ed Growing Healthy program recently planted container gardens at the Greater King David Baptist Church's Baton Rouge Center for Seniors and the Cheneyville Senior Center.

Approximately 15 senior citizens at Cheneyville and 25 at Greater King David planted their own container tomato plants. Participants were involved in the whole process from filling the pots with soil, planting and fertilizing. Each participant took their plants home and will nurture them until harvest time!

The activities were led by SU Ag Center's Nutrition Educators Marquette Anderson, Kiyana Kelly and Growing Healthy Coordinator Stephanie Elwood.

## **SNAP-ED Growing Healthy Program plants citrus orchard at St. James Parish School**



A citrus orchard was recently implemented at St. Louis Academy in St. James Parish. SNAP-Ed Growing Healthy coordinator Stephanie Elwood and Nutrition Educator for St. James and Ascension parishes Lisa Weber led the initiative with the school's elementary class.

Satsuma, Kumquat, Lemon and Naval orange trees were planted behind the school building to complement the vegetable garden the school has planted in the front of the building.

For additional information on the SU Ag Center's Growing Health Program, contact Stephanie Elwood at [stephanie\\_elwood@suagcenter.com](mailto:stephanie_elwood@suagcenter.com).

## **SU Ag Center's Tiffany Franklin appointment to Federal Advisory Committee**



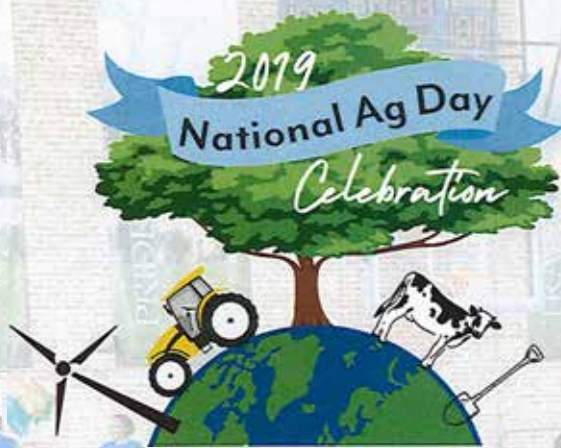
SU Ag Center's Associate Youth Specialist, Tiffany Franklin, Ph.D., has been appointed to serve as a member of the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (FACJJ) by Caren Harp, Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Franklin will serve a two-year term and help shape the FACJJ's perspectives on juvenile justice issues and share them with the President, Members of Congress, and the OJJDP Administrator.

The purpose of the FACJJ is to analyze, review, and examine legislation, research, policies, regulations, practices, and/or operations and to advise the President, Congress, and the OJJDP Administrator about the issues that affect juvenile justice and delinquency prevention throughout the nation.

The committee was established by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (Section 223). Franklin has also served on the Louisiana Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Advisory Board.





SU Ag Center and College of Ag teach students the importance of Agriculture during National Ag Day

More than 1,600 elementary, middle and high school students learned how agriculture impacts their daily lives during the Southern University Ag Center's National Ag Day.

The event was held on March 26 on the lawn of Mayberry Dining Hall and the Southern University Event Center.

During the "Agricultural Block Party," students toured several exhibits, which included live animal and food demonstrations, technology, horticulture, and family and consumer sciences.

"Each year, the Southern University Ag Center and the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences celebrates National Ag Day to teach students where their food comes from and to allow the students to journey through agriculture by gaining innovative hands-on learning experiences that they will never forget," said Dr. Renita Marshall, event organizer and chair of the department of agricultural sciences in Southern University's College of Agriculture.

National Ag Day, which was recognized on March 14, is a nationwide effort to tell the true story of American agriculture and remind citizens that agriculture is a part of everyday life from the food we eat, to the clothes we wear, and the fuel that powers our vehicles. The SU Ag Center held their celebration on March 26 due to a scheduling conflict on March 14.

### **Three College of Agricultural, Family and Consumers Professors recognized during P.R.I.D.E. Awards Program**

Southern University held its 2019 Partnering, Research, Innovation, Development and Entrepreneurship (P.R.I.D.E.) Awards Program on April 15.

The following College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences professor were recognized during the program:

#### ***Outstanding Researchers***

Dr. Fatemeh Malekian, Professor SU Ag Center

Dr. Zhu H. Ning, Endowed Professor of Science, Department of Urban Forestry and Natural Resources.

#### ***Rising Research Star***

Dr. Yaw A. Twumesi, Associate Professor, Department of Urban Forestry and Natural Resources.

The P.R.I.D.E. Awards Program recognized and honored University Researchers who are making significant advances to knowledge, techniques and creative expressions in their professional fields.



ANNUAL

AWARDS

RECOGNITION

Banquet  
2019

Southern University students enrolled in the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences with a 3.0 or higher grade point average were honored during the College's Annual Awards and Recognition Banquet on Thursday, March 21.

The event, which was themed "Building Excellence: A Lifetime of Harvest," was held at 6 p.m. in the Cotillion Ballroom of the Smith-Brown Memorial Student Union on Southern University's campus.

Students who participated in an internship and received scholarships for the Fall 2018 – Spring 2019 academic year were also recognized during the banquet.

Ron Jackson, Ph.D., Chief Learning Officer, was the keynote speaker for the event.

The banquet is held annually to recognize the College's honor students, scholarship recipients and highlight student research efforts and student clubs and organizations.

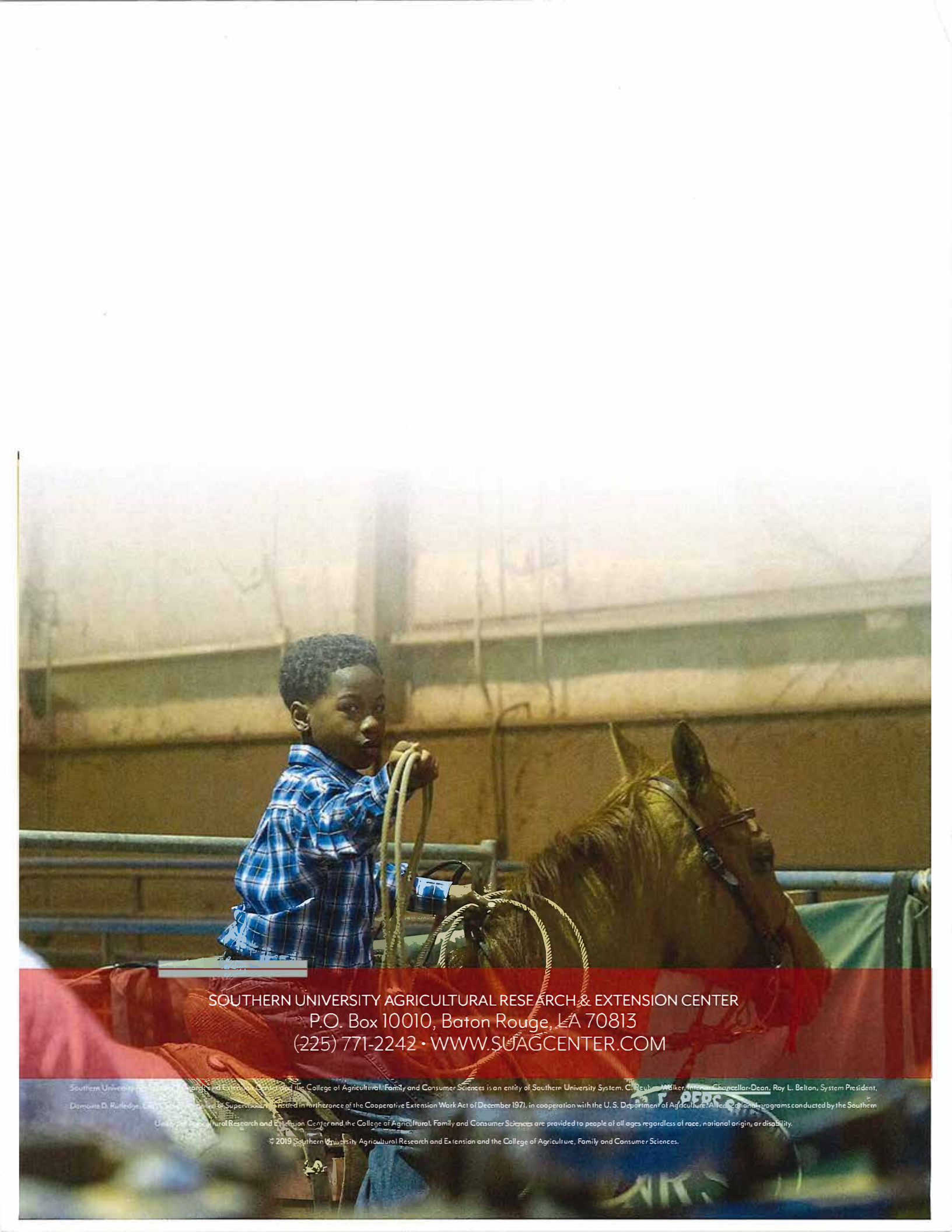
The evening was chaired by Renita Marshall, Kenyetta Nelson-Smith, and Zhu Ning. Their committee members included Yaw Twumasi, Meguna Johnson, Alice Dyson, Mila Berhane, Keisha Ceasar, D'Andre Lee, LaKeeshia Giddens Lusk, Angela Phelps, Jacqueline Dixon, Calvin Walker, Yadong Qi, Harold Mellieon, Patricia Meynsse, Cheryl Atkinson, Gary Simon, and Allison Johnson.

This article and photo also appeared in The Advocate Newspaper on April 16, 2019, in the Pam's Party Line Section.







A young boy with short dark hair, wearing a blue and white plaid shirt, is leading a brown horse. He is holding a rope attached to the horse's harness. The scene is set in a stable or barn with wooden walls and metal railings. The lighting is warm and slightly hazy. A red banner is overlaid at the bottom of the image, containing contact information for the Southern University Agricultural Research & Extension Center.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER  
P.O. Box 10010, Baton Rouge, LA 70813  
(225) 771-2242 • [WWW.SUAGCENTER.COM](http://WWW.SUAGCENTER.COM)

Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Extension Services of the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences is an entity of Southern University System. Clifton W. Baker, Interim Chancellor/Dean, Roy L. Beltan, System President, Damiana D. Rutledge, Executive Director of Extension Services, are authorized to certify participation in the Cooperative Extension Work Act of December 1977, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. All educational programs conducted by the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences are provided to people of all ages regardless of race, national origin, or disability.

© 2019 Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension and the College of Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences.



**MAY**  
2019

**SUNO**  
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY at NEW ORLEANS

# Honors & Awards

Day Ceremony



“I am proud to stand here as a graduate of Southern University at New Orleans”

— New Orleans Police Chief  
Shaun Ferguson



Photo by Mark Ford

Vice Chancellor Brenda Jackson, from left Vice Chancellor David Adegoye, Top Graduate Nina T. Nguyen, Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin and New Orleans Police Chief Shaun Ferguson

## Academic Excellence Celebrated

Shaun Ferguson, superintendent of the New Orleans Police Department and SUNO alumnus, was the keynote speaker at the Honors & Awards Day Ceremony April 3. Chief Ferguson said that Southern University at New Orleans is the best place for students to increase their knowledge, develop their skill sets and to become part of a big family.

"Everyone here did not only help me succeed as a police chief, but also to succeed as a man," he said. "I came from the streets of New Orleans. I know what it is to come up from every challenge that has been given to you. It is how you overcome those circumstances."



Chief Ferguson received his bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Southern University at New Orleans in 2002. He received his master's degree in Criminal Justice from SUNO in 2017.

The theme for this year's Honors & Awards Day was "Here and Now: The Road to Success Begins." More than 700 students were recognized for their academic and service excellence. For example, Jessica Reaux, a junior Psychology major from New Orleans, received a \$1,000 check from the League of Women Voters of New Orleans in recognition of her community service. The check was presented by Ms. Jessie Nieblas, League vice president.



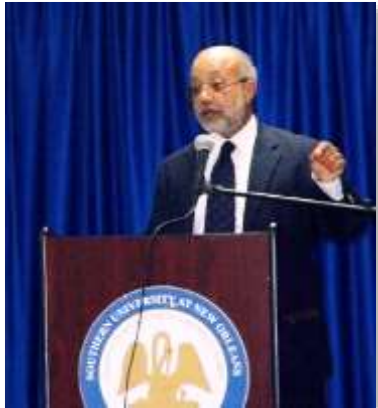
# Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society Inducts New Members



Twenty-five students and one faculty member from the College of Business were inducted into the 2019 Beta Gamma Sigma Business Honor Society April 5. This is the first induction class since the College earned AACSB International accreditation in 2012.

Beta Gamma Sigma membership is by invitation-only, and is open to the top 10 percent of business majors and business faculty from AACSB International accredited schools or programs. The theme for the 2019 induction ceremony was "How to View Academic Excellence in a World Powered by Artificial Intelligence."

The keynote speaker was Dr. Donald Andrews (pictured right), dean of the College of Business, at Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge. He traced the history of innovation and technology through the centuries, emphasizing how seemingly irreplaceable inventions and technologies were displaced by new technologies that did not come from those who dominated the displaced technologies. He emphasized that the only way to stay relevant in an era of rapid innovation and change is to be a lifelong learner. He reminded students that the careers of the future have not yet been invented today, and as such they must be agile and nimble to survive.



The inductees are Dr. Yun Doo Lee, assistant professor of Business Administration; and students Dana Adams, Amia Augillard, Kenya Bellock, Victoria Blunt, Tequilla Campbell, Onye Kachi Jacob Chika, Christina Clark, Winza Derosier, Christopher Francis, Brandi Grimaldi Stampley, Rakie Harris, Jacquekeia Johnson, Chantrel Lewis, Kimberly Matthews, Tolulope Okuboyejo, Jhi Prosper, Hikmat Qendah, Renada Simms, Kimona Smikle, Ardel Smith, Tawana Thomas and Kimberly Warren. DXC Technologies sponsored the reception.



Photo by Tammy C. Barney

Junior Psychology Major Jessica Reaux, I and Jessie Nieblas, vice president, League of Women Voters of New Orleans

## Students with Highest Class Averages

### Graduating Senior with the Highest Average

Nina T. Nguyen, Psychology - 3.88

### Highest Cumulative Class Averages 2018

- Hannah S. Jimenez, senior, HIMS - 4.0
- Gabrielle Joseph, junior, Educational Studies - 3.93
- Genevieve Mojo Eyes, sophomore, Psychology - 4.0
- Kevin M. Warner, freshman, Biology - 4.0
- Koran S. Woods, freshman, Public Administration - 4.0

### Highest Class Averages Spring 2018

- Hannah S. Jimenez, senior, HIMS - 4.0
- Dana Bickham, senior, Public Administration - 4.0
- Gabrielle Joseph, junior, Educational Studies - 4.0
- Christopher Francis, junior, CIS - 4.0
- Genevieve Mojo Eyes, sophomore, Psychology - 4.0
- Yanique T. Watson, freshman, Psychology - 3.91

### Highest Class Averages Fall 2018

- Hannah S. Jimenez, senior, HIMS - 4.0
- Dana Bickham, senior, Public Administration, - 4.0
- Gabrielle Joseph, junior, Educational Studies - 4.0
- Christopher Francis, junior, CIS - 4.0
- Genevieve Mojo Eyes, sophomore, Psychology - 4.0
- Kevin M. Warner, freshman, Biology, 4.0
- Koran S. Woods, freshman, Public Administration - 4.0



*SUNO students, faculty, staff and administrators participated in HBCU Day at the Capitol April 24, along with representatives from Southern University in Baton Rouge, Southern University in Shreveport, Southern University Law Center, Southern University Ag Center, Grambling State University, Dillard University and Xavier University.*

## College of Education Receives Child Care Grant

The College of Education & Human Development has received a \$226,572 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to help eligible SUNO students pay for child care while in class.

The Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS) Program, authorized by the Higher Education Act and administered by the U.S. Department of Education, supports the participation of low-income parents in postsecondary education through the provision of campus-based childcare services.

SUNO's project, proposed by Dean Willie Jones, is funded for \$56,643 for four years (\$226,572) and will begin Oct. 1. The CCAMPIS Project will be administered through the College of Education & Human Development with assistance from the Office of Financial Aid and Retention Counselors. The Project will use the funds to help students develop a degree program,

provide child care assistance to student parents, and make available University counselors to provide resources to students who qualify for funding.

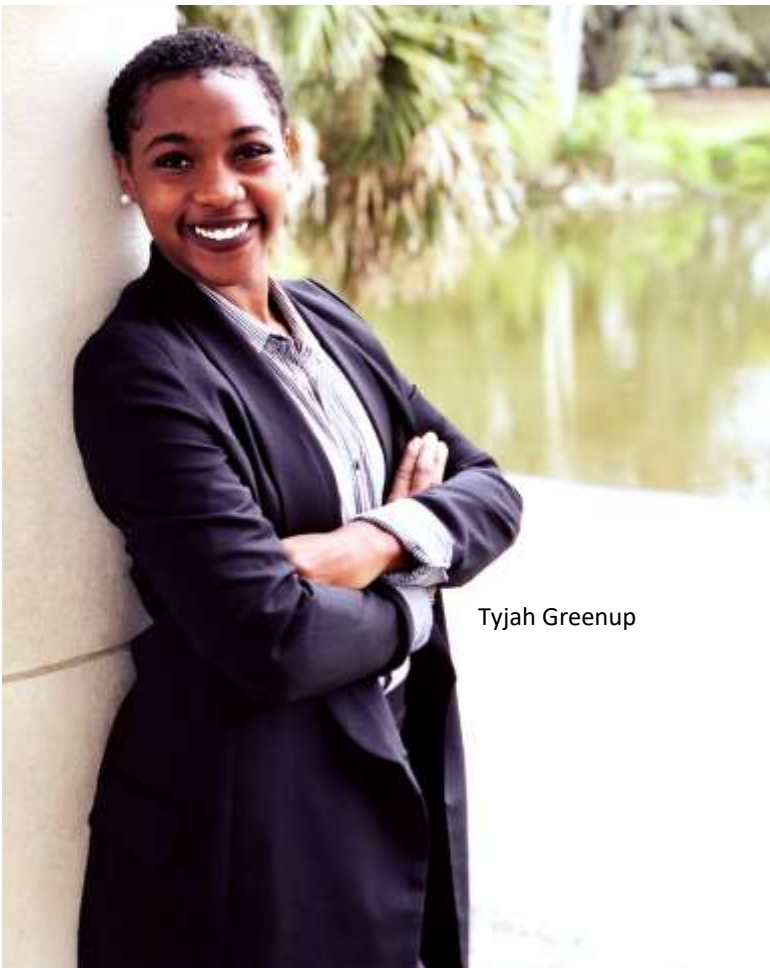
Participants in the project attend parenting classes, early literacy development, and workshops for student participants, including classes in self-esteem, enrichment and family dynamics.

These best practices will be supported by the Department of Child Development & Family Studies, School of Social Work, Department of Teacher Education and various professionals from local agencies. Participants also will participate in activities provided by the Center of Retention & Student Success, such as career counseling, student orientations, financial literacy workshops, time management and tutoring sessions to increase retention and graduation rates.





Pa rick Shaw



Tyjah Greenup

## Students Elect 2019-2020 Leaders

On April 4, students elected officers for 2019-2020 school year. Officers-elect are:

- SGA President – Pa rick Shaw
- SGA Vice-President – Jammal Williams
- Miss SUNO – Tyjah Greenup
- Miss Senior – Shona Machona
- Miss Junior – Shontrice Walker
- Miss Sophomore – Victoria Udechi
- Senior President – Will Walker
- Junior President – Blake Brum
- Sophomore President – Jared Roark
- Senior Senator – Kamaryn Hunt
- Junior Senator – Ashli Gar
- Sophomore Senator – Watson
- Graduate Senator – Johnathan Pernell



*Drs. Louise Kaltenbaugh, standing from [redacted] and Sherry Bachus co-chaired the SUNO Research Conference April 5-6.*

## Research Presented during Conference in Library

Undergraduate and graduate students presented their research during a conference April 5-6 in the Leonard S. Washington Memorial Library.

The conference co-chairs were Drs. Louise Kaltenbaugh, associate professor and co-director of the Center for [redacted] on and Teach Quality, and Sherry Bachus, chair, director and associate professor of Child Development & Family Studies.

The guest speaker was Noel Blackburn of Brookhaven National Laboratory.



*SUNO Research Conference Graduate Student Oral Presenta on winners with Arts & Sciences Dean Evelyn Harrell, faculty members and guest speaker Mr. Noel Blackburn of Brookhaven Na onal Laboratory.*



*SUNO Research Conference Undergraduate Oral Presenta on winners with Arts & Sciences Dean Evelyn Harrell, faculty members and guest speaker Noel Blackburn of Brookhaven Na onal Laboratory.*



# Hel lo from **EGYPT**



Dr. Haitham Eid's International Museums and Cultures class, which is part of the Museum Studies Program, traveled to Egypt from April 8 – 18. Students visited more than 20 museums and cultural heritage sites in QR codes in museum exhibits at Aswan University, Egypt. They also worked collaboratively with faculty and students from Aswan University during a workshop.

The group also had an opportunity to cruise the Nile, and to interact with world renowned Egyptologists, art historians, museum professionals, artists, architects and academics.





*Pictured from left: Catherine Marks-Douglas, Student Veterans of America board member; Lt. Gen. Leslie C. Smith, Inspector General, U.S. Army; Omar Ebanks, Student Veterans of America vice president; Dr. Samuel Odom, Student Veterans of America faculty advisor.*



## SUNO Hosts Brunch to Appreciate Military

Lt. Gen. Leslie C. Smith was the guest speaker at the Military Community Appreciation Brunch in the SUNO Conference Center April 24. Lt. Gen. Smith currently serves as the inspector general in the office of the Secretary of the Army.

He received his commission from Georgia Southern University (GSU) in 1983 as a Field Artillery Officer. In 1985, he graduated from GSU with a bachelor's degree in accounting and as a distinguished military graduate and branched as a Chemical Officer. His previous assignment was as the deputy inspector general, Office of the Secretary of the Army.





The Center for African and African American Studies (CAAAS), the Association of Nigerians in New Orleans (ANNO) and the New Orleans Museum of Art (NOMA) organized a movie screening and roundtable discussion April 12. The Movie Screening, "Invasion 1897," was based on the invasion of Benin Kingdom by the British Expeditionary Army, and the roundtable discussion focused on the topic, "The Role of Ethnicity in Nigeria Social Conditions-Looking Closely at The Social Conditions in Nigeria Today." The event was followed by a walk-through of the African Gallery at NOMA.



◀ The Center for African and African American Studies (CAAAS), the African and Diasporic Religious Studies Association (ADRSA) and others hosted the Black Spirit, Black Power: Africana Religions and Liberation Conference in the University Center April 19.

Photos by H. Francis

Dr. Funlayo E. Wood Menzies, founding director, African and Diasporic Religious Studies Association, above; and Dr. Clyde Robertson, director, SUNO's Center for African and African American Studies, above right.



## Students Present Findings from Final Research Projects

Eight Master of Science in Computer Information Systems (MS-CIS) students presented their **Final Research Project** (CISP 698) before an audience made up of CBA faculty, students, staff and members of the public April 26. The Final Research Project introduces students to research methods and provides an opportunity for students to develop IT-driven individual problem-solving skills. Each student is assigned a CIS faculty member who supervises his/her research project. The students, advisors, and research topics are:

- Kalese D. Johnson (Dr. David Alijani, Advisor) *Design and Implementation of a Resource Management System for Assisting Internees' Families*
- Mohamed Traek Nagy (Dr. David Alijani, Advisor) *Design and Implementation of an Information Processing System for Amazon Delivery Service Business Partner*
- Hikmat Khalil Qendeh (Dr. David Alijani, Advisor) *Design and Implementation of an Information Processing System for a Mobile Small Business*
- Chadwayne Odaine Vidal (Dr. Nabie Conteh, Advisor) *Security Strategized and Information Assurance of Mobile Devices in the Workplace*
- Kenyon Moore (Dr. Robert Elliot, Advisor) *Solutions to Workplace Misuse of Information Systems*
- Alex Williams (Dr. Samuel Eweni, Advisor) *Using Arduino to Simulate Biometrics on Fingerprinting*
- Robin B. Johnson (Dr. Obyung Kwun) *Factors that Affect HBCU Student Help-Seeking Behavior*
- Victoria Phillips (Dr. Yanjun Yu, Advisor) *Emphasis on Marketing and Implementation of a Web Site.*

## Management Class Researches Top Companies

Students in Dr. Adrine Harrell-Carter's MGMT 362- Principles of Management class were divided into groups to research such Fortune 500 companies as Amazon, Apple, Nike, Marriott and Jordan Inc. The focus of the research was "The Global Environment, Diversity and Management Perspectives." In addition to their written report, each group made an oral presentation to the class April 11. The research project was designed to enhance the students' analytical, communication and technological skills.





▲ Dr. Robert Elli’s CISP451 Project Management graduating seniors presented their Semester Capstone Projects April 26. This class prepares students on how to successfully manage projects from start to finish. These projects can be software projects or business services. This semester, four groups of students created, designed and mock-implemented professional real-world projects. The project titles were: *The Black Dollar Strip Mall Project*; *Splash Skies- Water Park*; *Kiddie Academy* and *Valkyrie Drones*. The students were required to orally present their part in the projects, which included business cases, itemized budgets, network diagrams and similar documents that described their venture.



◀ Dr. Nabie Conteh’s CISP 250 02 students presented their group projects April 25. The various groups displayed the practical aspects of the theoretical knowledge gained in the course, showcasing the alignment of IT with business by designing the respective vision, mission statements, strategy, organizational structure, competitive advantage, line of products and service rendering of their chosen organizations. The projects were modeled after such IT-related tasks as technical support, consulting, hardware and software vendors, cybersecurity and other service industries. The projects were designed to demonstrate the technical prowess of the students, and to showcase their collaborative capabilities, written and oral skills.

At the April 2 College of Business Student Assembly and Town Hall meeting, four students and graduates currently employed by DXC Technologies in New Orleans shared how their SUNO education prepared them for their specific DXC roles, what they wished had been done differently and gave advice to students and faculty to ensure a smooth transition from school to the workforce.



The presenters were Brandi Grimaldi Stampley, Stanley Ikegwuonu, Tolulope Okuboyejo and Pascal Onoh.



◀ Joe Washington, founder & CEO of Diversify Society, and the Workforce Readiness Director for the New Orleans Chapter of the Society for Human Resources Management, in partnership with the SUNO-based Epsilon Upsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, provided a *Resume Review* workshop for SUNO seniors and juniors April 10. Several human resource professionals helped students create and enhance their resumes.



◀ The BSW Program conducted a seminar/retreat for gradua seniors April 15-16 at the Seashore United Methodist Assembly Retreat Center in Biloxi, MS. The retreat was organized by Professor Gladys Merrick and facilitated by Professors Gladys Merrick, Claude Montegut and Dr. Gail Wise. Students used the e to review values and ethics of the social work profession.



◀ Professor Gladys Merrick facilitated the BSW Seminar for Majors. Approximately 90 students participated. The course provides a forum for professional development, social work knowledge, and familiarity of social work roles relate to contemporary social issues. It also presents departmental and university expectations and concerns, as well as professional standards mandated by state law.



◀ College of Education Students Rod Bourgeois and Tia Sorapura were nominated for the Louisiana Board of Regent's Future Educator Honor Roll. The Louisiana Board of Regents recognizes top candidates for the teaching profession from teacher preparatory units from around the state each year.



Dr. Illya Tietzel presented at the 7th Annual Conference on Computational Biology & Bioinformatics at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge April 4-5 and presented his research about the bacterium Chlamydia trachomatis and macrophages.

A research manuscript describing how pathogens can take advantage of specific subsets of immune cells by

Dr. Tietzel (corresponding author) and co-authors Dr. Alison J. Quayle (LSU HSC New Orleans) and Dr. Rey A. Carabeo (Washington State University) was accepted for publication and in *Frontiers in*



*Microbiology*. The title of this original research article is "Alternatively Activated Macrophages Are Host Cells for Chlamydia trachomatis Reverse Activated Macrophages." doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2019.00919

Linda Hill, curator and archivist for the Center for African and African American Studies presented at the Annual Conference of Archives Conference "Archiving Museum Conservation Project" March 29. Ms. Hill focused on the remediation of SUNO's artifacts and archives collection since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to the present.

Dr. Raymond Delaney, associate professor of Criminal Justice, chaired a panel on "The Corrections Work Environment: What Affects People, Why They Leave, What to Do About it Corrections/Corrections Administration and Management" March 28 in Baltimore, MD at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. As a co-author, he was responsible for research on a Comparative Study of Admission and Training Costs in County Jails with a research group of four other scholars. This criminal justice research group conducted several literary pieces on training, cultural diversity, higher education, women's issues in criminal justice and mental health in re-entry.

Dr. Louise Kaltenbaugh presented the book, *The Ugly Duckling*, to a group of 3 year olds at Delgado Community College.

On April 8, Drs. Alvin Bopp and Ibrahim Ekaidi visited the LSU HSC (Shreveport) to participate in HSC-Shreveport's Diversity Initiative. They toured the facilities and had productive discussions with the Center's Chancellor, Academic Dean and Admissions Associate Dean about medical school opportunities for students and other collaborations. Chancellor G.E. Ghali offered to visit SUNO during the fall semester to discuss careers in medicine and to meet with students.

On April 11, 2019, Dr. Bachus' proposal on "Concerns in Higher Education: Rise in Mental Health Among College Students" was accepted for a presentation at American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences AAFCS 110<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference & Expo, St. Lewis, MO, June 22-26.

Jennifer Valente of Belle Chasse High School, conducted the "Characteristics of Highly Effective Teachers Seminar April 10. The seminar was sponsored by the SUNO NSF Robert Noyce Grant.

Dr. Joe Omojola, from left, Dr. Cynthia Singleton, Jennifer Valente of Belle Chasse High School, Dr. Louise Kaltenbaugh and Dr. Murty Kambhamp



Dr. April Johnson-Dumas, an adjunct professor in the School of Social Work and a SUNO alum, appeared on TV One's *For My Man* as a guest expert March 18. She provided her clinical analysis regarding a double homicide that occurred in the Greater New Orleans area in spring 2014. The criminal event garnered national attention due to the severity of the crime. She was the forensic specialist providing clinical feedback on the psychological state of two people who were involved in a double homicide nearly four years ago in New Orleans. On the news it was referred to as the "Lebelle Killings." The show included professionals from local law enforcement and the legal community.

The Field Education Department in the School of Social Work conducted the annual Agency Supervisor Training and the Field Fair. The April 5 Supervisor Training, attended by 90 agency supervisors, was divided into four sections: an Overview of the SUNO BSW and MSW program requirements, a Field Education Q&A, Ethics and the Art of Supervision. The Field Fair was April 24 and was attended by more than 30 agency partners. The Field Fair is the annual start of the Department's summer-long effort to place more than 200 BSW and MSW students in agencies throughout the New Orleans and Baton Rouge areas.

Dr. Gail Wise, who serves as a consultant to the Title-IV-E Child Welfare Program in the School of Social Work organized a training for all students in the Title IV-E Program. She and Pat Toledano-Thompson provided a detailed training about document retention and record-keeping as critical areas of skill development for child-welfare workers. Seven Title IV-E students will graduate May 11.

Tonya Smith, Child Development & Family Studies Practicum graduate senior, accepted a job offer from her internship site at Holygrove Senior Citizen Center. In addition, Cherrelle Lewis, another Child Development & Family Studies Practicum graduate senior accepted teaching position at Kingsley House.

Obyung Kwun, Ghasem S. Alijani, and Mohammed A. Khaleel (SUNO student), **Adoption of Virtual Reality in Learning Among HBCU Students**, presented at the 2019 Institute for Global Business Research Conference, New Orleans, April 26.

Ukpolo, Victor, *Trade Openness and Economic Performance: Empirical Evidence from Nigeria*; [Journal of Economics and Sustainable Development](#), Vol 9, No.24, 2018; ISSN 222-1700 (hardcopy), ISSN 222-2855 (online)

Ukpolo, Victor, *Co-integration and Granger-Causality between Exports and Economic Growth: Further Evidence from Nigeria*, [West African Financial and Economic Review](#) Vol. 18, Number 1 (2018)

M.A. Museum Studies students presented their Master's Projects in April:

- Ms. Lindell Davis presented her exhibition, "History of Algiers," at the Algiers Regional Library
- Ms. Jacqueline Taylor presented her exhibition, "African Textiles," at the New Orleans Jazz Museum in the Old US Mint building
- Mr. Wellington Stewart presented his research on "Formation Musical All-Stars," at the Museum Studies classroom in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences building
- Ms. Monique Aziz presented her collections management project and exhibition in the Museum Studies Lab entitled, "Historical Cultural Legacy—The Collection."

Gus Bennett, a graduate of the M.A. Museum Studies Program was one of the featured artists in the April Open Studios event at the Joan Mitchell Center. His residency at the Joan Mitchell Studios will extend through July 2019.

Announcing the release of his new book, [Museum Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship: A New Model for a Challenging Era](#), Dr. Eid had his first book signing event during the MW19 Conference in Boston, MA.



Dr. Haitham Eid led a panel discussion titled, "The Path to Diversity in Museums" at the MW19 Conference in Boston, MA April 2-6. The panel included Jennifer Williams of New Orleans Museum of Art and Vera Warren-Williams, owner of the Community Book Center and M.A. Museum Studies graduate.

Dr. Eid also presented his paper, *Digital Social Innovation and the Evolving Role of Digital in Museums* at the MW19 Conference. The paper was published in the printed conference proceedings and online.





# Alumni Spotlight



Janelle Helmste er, first-grade teacher at Bayou Woods Elementary in St. Tammany Parish, was named the 2019-2020 District Teacher of the Year in the St. Tammany Parish School District.

Ms. Helmste er is also the Elementary Division Teacher of the Year. As a Grade Level Chair and School Improvement Plan Committee member, she is active in her school and works with fellow teachers and administrators to evaluate and continuously improve elementary school programs.

She has a passion for creating a positive parental involvement in

schools to enhance the educational process. She received her Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from Southern University at New Orleans in 2014.

## Chancellor's *Report*

MAY 2019

VOLUME 4 \* NUMBER 5

### DAY AT THE CAPITOL

SU System President Ray L. Belton spoke to a packed room at the Capitol during the press conference for HBCU DAY at the Capitol on April 24. During his opening comments, President Belton recognized SUSLA Chancellor Rodney Ellis along with the other SU Chancellors. Miss SUSLA's Caitlyn Jones was also recognized during the event. In his comments, President Belton referenced the LA Board of Regents newly unveiled Plan for producing 85,000 students by 2030. He placed special emphasis on the Plan's strategies for addressing equity issues and the critical role of HBCU's and the (SU) System in the attainment of degrees to fill the State's workforce skills gaps.

Members of the Executive team joining Dr. Ellis on the trip were Dr. Melva Williams, Dr. Sharron-Herron Williams, Stephanie Rogers. Program Administrators present included Dr. Tuesday Mahoney, Dr. Albert Jackson, Darrin Dixon; in a host loyal SUSLA leaders. SGA Advisor Rebecca Gilliam teamed up with other program managers to make a strong SUSLA showing at the Capitol.



### 2ND ANNUAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE



The Academy of Excellence held the second annual Administrative Professionals Conference on April 25, 2019. Organized by Fatina Elliott, Coordinator of the Academy, this year's professional development conference featured a full day of workshops facilitated by speakers, experts in the respective fields, from the community and SUSLA campus sites. The day concluded with Dr. Ellis joining in with supervisors to thank and express their appreciation to the Administrative Professionals for the exceptional service they render to students and employees at SUSLA.



# FROM THE DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

## DR. LONNIE MCCRAY INDUCTED INTO LOUISIANA 4H HALL OF FAME



L to R: Dr. Lonnie McCray and Dr. Lepley Associate Vice President and Program Leader for 4H Youth Development

Dr. Lonnie McCray, Dean of the Division of Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education at Southern University in Shreveport has been inducted into the Louisiana 4H Hall of Fame. Dr. McCray's career accomplishments have never deterred him from giving his time and knowledge to 4-H as he has been a dedicated 4-H alumnus and the epitome of 4-H volunteerism in Caddo Parish since 2004. Dr. McCray has served in many leadership roles. As a 4-H volunteer, he serves as an advisory leadership council facilitator; a judge for scholarships, talent, bake-off and cookery contests; and as a presenter at the end of year event.

As the 4-H Advisory Council facilitator, he leads the council through decision-making processes, creates a sense of belonging with all members — especially the youth — and ensures their voices are heard. He has created and presented engaging hands-on activities for hundreds of youth during our end-of-year event the last five years. Dr. McCray also judges the parish 4-H scholarships and has served as a phone judge for state Executive Board applicants. Because of the effect 4-H had on his life, he strives to provide similar experiences to today's youth. Dr. McCray, on behalf of the entire SUSLA family, **WE SALUTE YOU!**

## SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT PROFESSOR CONDUCTS GRANT WRITING GBOKO BENUE STATE NIGERIA

Dr. Joseph Orban, a Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Sciences from Southern University at Shreveport Louisiana is currently serving as U.S. Fulbright Scholar 2018-19 at Benue State University (BSU) Nigeria.

As part of his Fulbright activities outside the host institution BSU, Dr. Orban conducted a 2-day Grant Writing Workshop to the faculty and staff of the University of Mkar at the invitation of the Vice Chancellor of the University of Mkar, Professor Dickson Iorwuese Gernah. The workshop which was attended by 70 participants covered Concepts of proposal development, Federal grants, State grants, Foundation grants, Contracts and Cooperative agreement.



SUSLA's Dr. Orban conducting Grant Writing Workshop at University of Mkar Nigeria



## SIGNING DAY FOR FUTURE SU COLLEGE CONNECT STUDENTS

The SU College Connect Program is gearing up for the 2019 fall semester. High school students throughout LA have heard about the program and have been requesting for members of the Connect team to speak with their students. Remarkably, the Mentorship Academy in Baton Rouge contacted Connect about their Mentorship Academy Signing Day. On April 12, 2019 in the SUBR Mini-dome, all students enrolled in the academy were present to support the class of 2019. Students in the class of 2019 identified their names, their intended majors, and the institutions that they

hoped to attend in the fall. SUSLA was ecstatic to learn that 50 students from the Mentorship Academy has chosen to be on the SUBR campus this fall through the SU College Connect Program. Advisors from the academy are working with the Connect team to get the students ready and enrolled for the fall. This invitation is a first for Connect, but the team is looking forward to many more. SUSLA is taking New Orleans and Baton Rouge by storm! Go Connect! The SU College Connect Program is offered through Academic Affairs, Dr. Sharon Herron-Williams, Vice Chancellor and managed by Vanessa Leggett, Program Director. To learn more contact [vleggett@susla.edu](mailto:vleggett@susla.edu)

## SUSLA RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY STUDENT WINS FIRST PLACE!

SUSLA's Radiologic Technology Program student Jeff Yeager recently won first place at the 2019 Midwinter Junior Division Student Bee Competition. The event was hosted by the Louisiana Society of Radiologic Technologists (LSRT) in Alexandria, LA. SUSLA student Moneat Washington brought home the fourth place trophy in the competition.

Each year, students from accredited radiologic technology programs from across the state of Louisiana, individually compete in the LSRT Student Bee competition for accolades, monetary prizes and to champion their institution as having the winning students. The purpose of this competition is to encourage student membership in LSRT, to provide healthy competition among student technologists and to recognize the student who demonstrates expertise in radiologic technology theory. Competing Institutions include Baton Rouge General, McNeese State University, Louisiana State University at Alexandria, Louisiana State University at Eunice, Southern University at Shreveport, and the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

## FROM THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (CWD)

### STUDENTS SEEK OPPORTUNITIES AT SUSLA'S CAREER & TRANSFER FAIR



SUSLA hosted its annual Spring Career and Transfer Fair on Thursday, April 4, 2019 in the Health & Physical Education Complex. Over seventy students visited with twenty-six vendors who were seeking exciting and motivated applicants to add to their teams or institutions. The fair afforded participants to meet with hiring managers, become more familiar with career opportunities and learn more information about programs offered at 4-year colleges and universities.

Some of the companies attending the fair included: Goodwill Industries, Barksdale Federal Credit Union, LA Job Connection, Shreveport Fire Department, Southern University Baton Rouge, Alcorn State University, Louisiana State University Shreveport, Grambling State University and Wiley College. According to Don Howard, Director of Career Services at SUSLA, several students secured on-the-spot interviews and one vendor said that it was the best fair he had attended this year.



The Career and Transfer Fair was sponsored by: The Office of Career Services with support from Community and Workforce Development, Human Resources, Student Support Services and Veterans Upward Bound. The Fall Career and Transfer Fair is scheduled for October 31, 2019



# FROM THE DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS & ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

## SUSLA DUAL ENROLLMENT EARLY COLLEGE ACHIEVEMENT STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT ETS PROGRAMS SPONSORED THE END OF YEAR ACTIVITY

Southern University at Shreveport's Dual Enrollment Early College students ended the academic year with a college tour sponsored by Trio Educational Talent Search, Ms. Tonja Prudomme and LeVester Mills, Advisors. Woodlawn High School and Booker T. Washington both participate in a special dual enrollment early college program. The partnership with Caddo Parish and SUSLA offers students opportunities to take SUSLA college courses on campus each week throughout the academic year, allowing them to earn a certificate and/or Associate Degree at the time of their High School graduation. Five BTW students will graduate with the SUSLA Class of 2019 earning a Certificate in Early Childhood Development through the program. Special thanks to Dr. Melva Williams, Dr. Sharon Herron-Williams, Sandra Bigham, Dr. Lonnie McCray, Dr. Terrance Vincent, Dr. Tuesday Mahoney, Monica McEachin and a host of Faculty members for serving as the administrators and Instructors for this project.



SUSLA offers Dual Enrollment opportunities to multiple High Schools throughout Louisiana. Educational Talent Search provides college readiness experiences for target Middle and High Schools in Caddo Parish. Learn more at [www.susla.edu](http://www.susla.edu)

## STUDENT AFFAIRS & ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT COLLEGE ACCESS TEAM ATTENDS THERE-ENTRY ALLIANCE FOR LOUISIANA CONFERENCE 2019



Southern University at Shreveport SA&EM College Access Team is keeping it real at the R.E.A.L State Conference 2019. Dr. Tuesday Mahoney, Assistant V C for College Access and her newest team members Carla Buntyn, Educational Opportunities Centers, and Latoya Hemphill, Coordinator of Adult Education/YNI participated with Dr. Melva Williams, V C Student Affairs and Enrollment Management in Baton Rouge at the R.E.A.L. Help Conference (Re-Entry Alliance for Louisiana) as special guest of Stephanie Rogers, SUSLA Chief Advancement Officer, Institutional Advancement and Executive Board Member of R.E.A.L. The team attended engaging sessions that shared best practices, trends, issues, and resources to support formerly incarcerated individuals and families impacted by the reentry efforts.

SUSLA's Trio Educational Opportunity Centers (Reta Stewart, Director) serves the Caddo Correctional Center Reentry Program by providing college preparation and career opportunities. Learn more about how SUSLA works to support returning citizens by contacting Reta Stewart at [rsteward@susla.edu](mailto:rsteward@susla.edu)

## SUSLA: A COLLEGE LIFE EVENT

SUSLA: A College Life - A college readiness workshop sponsored by College Access, Trio Educational Talent Search, Dual Enrollment, and the Office of Admission and Recruitment hosted over 100 High School students at the SUSLA campus during Spring Fest 2019. Prospective "Future Jags" students from throughout the region received a hard knocks look at the college application process and college survival tips. Students engaged in networking activities that increased their knowledge of key strategies to apply and navigate college at SUSLA. Students participated in a campus tour and Spring Fest activities on the yard.

Dr. Tuesday Mahoney, Assistant V C for College Access and Jorge Sousa,

Director of Admissions and Recruitment coordinated the event concept to increase awareness and improve first generation and low-income students opportunities to enter SUSLA. SUSLA plans to host the event each Spring for Dual Enrollment students.





## COCO RECIPIENT OF THE 2019 HERA EDUCATION AWARD

The SUSLA campus extends congratulations to Ms. Karen Coco, Director of Student Support Services. Ms. Coco is a recipient of the 2019 HERA Education Award from the Shreveport Mayor's Commission for Women. The award recognizes women leaders who are making significant contributions to the community within various areas of professional and civic services.

As a member of the Student Support Team under the Division of Student Affairs, Ms. Karen Coco dedicates her career, time and effort to helping students acquire the additional services they need to succeed on the college level.

On Friday, March 29, The Women's Commission will officially recognized Ms. Coco and other honorees for their outstanding contributions in a Celebration of Women's History Month Luncheon at the Shreveport Convention Center. Karen Coco, on behalf of the entire SUSLA family, [WE SALUTE YOU!](#)



## SUSLA CATCHES "Spring Fest Fever"!

"Spring Fest 2019": April 16, 2019 at Southern University at Shreveport Springfest fever was in the air. Students, faculty and staff enjoyed fun activities, great food, and festivities signaling that the end of the semester is near! Greek organizations shared in the tradition on the "Yard" with tables displays of black history, culture, and campus life resources – all to encourage retention of SUSLA students. Thanks to guests Zeta Phi Beta, Delta Sigma Theta, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Omega Psi Phi, Kappa Alpha Psi, for hosting a table on the yard and scrolling for our Jags.





## JAGUAR EMPLOYEE of the MONTH

***Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Chancellor is pleased to announce  
Tracey Grayson  
as Jaguar of the Month for May 2019.***



Congratulations to Tracey Grayson, Special Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management and the CFO.

Tracey's extraordinary customer service skills are exemplary. Her willingness to assist others and commitment to education is unequaled; as she arrives with a smile and a friendly greeting for colleagues and students alike. Often observed providing ways to assist students with the enrollment process, financial aid and other aspects in becoming a Jaguar; is almost an inevitable aspect of Tracey's character.

As Tracey maintains a "Team Player" personality, she volunteers and lends her creative talents and services to various departments throughout the campus. Her ability and ambition to organize, lead and motivate others are qualities that are expressive of outstanding employees.

During Tracey's tenure at Southern University she has renewed and reinvigorated the spirit of cooperation, collaboration and education. She has captured through effort and achievement the commitment of education by completing a Bachelor's degree. She imparts this philosophy with our students to provide motivation and encouragement through their educational journey.

*Thank you for your service, Tracey Grayson! SUSLA 's Jaguar Employee of the Month!*

## JAGUAR STUDENT of the MONTH

**ALOYNA LEWIS** is a star women's basketball player for SUSLA's Lady Jags. Miss Lewis was named 2nd team all conference player for the season and was the 2018-2019 2nd leading scorer for the Lady Jags. She is a native from Jonesboro, LA with a cumulative 3.5 GPA for the fall semester.

**CONGRATULATIONS! Aloyna Lewis - Student Jag of the Month**



# Summer Registration Now Open



**WE GET IT. YOU'RE BUSY... SAVE TIME, STUDY ONLINE!**  
*And...Offering Quick Summer Sessions – You Choose!*

- Four weeks
- Eight weeks
- 16 Weeks

**SUSLA ENROLLING FOR SUMMER CLASSES NOW! [WWW.SUSLA.EDU](http://WWW.SUSLA.EDU)**

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



**MAY 20: SUSLA SPRING COMMENCEMENT**  
*Shreveport Convention Center • 6:00 pm*  
**SPEAKER: The Honorable Adrian Perkins**  
*Mayor, City of Shreveport*

**JUNE 5: Southern University Museum of Arts**  
*Featuring Exhibits Honoring*  
**“Black Music Month”**  
*For more information, CALL: (318) 670-9631*



*Register Now!*  
**JUNE 6 - JULY 28, 2019**

# Summer Camp

For more information, contact:  
Department of Continuing Education  
(318) 670-9697 or email [continuinged@susla.edu](mailto:continuinged@susla.edu)

**SUSLA**  
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SHREVEPORT LOUISIANA

## YOUTH BASKETBALL SUMMER CAMP

DIRECTED BY SUSLA WOMEN'S AND MEN'S BASKETBALL COACHES

**JUNE 11 - 14**  
9:00AM - 1:00PM

**BOYS & GIRL'S AGES 9 - 13**

\*BASIC AND ADVANCED FUNDAMENTALS\*  
\*BALL HANDLING\*  
\*PASSING\*  
\*SHOOTING\*  
\*DEFENSE\*  
\*WORK ETHIC\*  
\*TEAM WORK\*  
\*POSITIVE ATTITUDE\*

**Camp Fee:**  
**\$150**  
(Lunch included)

To register and confirm,  
email: [mhines@susla.edu](mailto:mhines@susla.edu)





The Chancellor's Report is a monthly publication from the  
Office of the Chancellor  
Rodney A. Ellis, Ed.D., Chancellor

Articles and editing provided through the  
Office of Marketing and University Relations

Design / layout / artwork and finishing services provided through the  
Office of Graphics Services / Document Management Center  
Barbara Austin, Coordinator / Editor

Units of the Division of Institutional Advancement / University Relations  
Stephanie K. Rogers, Chief Advancement Officer

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BOARD MEMBERS**

- Atty. Domoine D. Rutledge, Chairman
- Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert, Jr., Vice Chairman
- Mr. John L. Barthelmy, District 1
- Mrs. Arlanda Williams, District 1
- Rev. Donald R. Henry, District 2
- Dr. Leroy Davis, District 2
- Mr. Raymond M. Fondell, District 3
- Atty. Patrick D. Magee, District 3
- Mr. Richard T. Hilliard, District 4
- Mr. Sam Albert Gilliam, District 4
- Mrs. Ann Smith, District 4
- Dr. Curman L. Gaines, District 5
- Rani G. Whitfield, M.D., District 6
- Atty. Tony M. Clayton, District 6
- Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, At-Large
- Xavieria Jeffers, Student Representative
- Dr. Ray L. Belton, President and Secretary to the Board of Supervisors

**ARE YOU FOLLOWING US ON SOCIAL MEDIA?**



"Southern University at Shreveport does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability or any other protected class".

Title IX Coordinator: Dr. Tuesday W. Mahoney,  
Johnny L. Vance, Jr. Student Activity Center, Room 208, (318) 670-9201.  
Section 504 Coordinator: Jerushka Ellis,  
Health & Physical Education Complex, Room 314, (318) 670-9367



**Rodney A. Ellis, Ed.D  
CHANCELLOR**

**EXECUTIVE TEAM MEMBERS**

- Wyrne H. Bryant
- Brandy Jacobsen
- Leslie R. McClellon
- Dr. Regina Robinson
- Stephanie K. Rogers
- Junice Sneed
- Frank Williams, Jr.
- Dr. Melva K. Williams
- Dr. Sharron Herron-Williams

**CHANCELLOR'S CABINET MEMBERS**

- Sandra Bigham
- Major Brock
- Devonye Brown
- JoAnn Warren-Brown
- Darrin Dixon
- Beatrice Wright (SGA)
- Angelique Feaster-Evans
- Rebecca Gilliam
- Stephanie Graham
- Dr. Barry Hester
- Sonya Hester
- Sophia Lee
- Vanessa Leggett
- Dr. Tuesday Mahoney
- Dr. Lonnie McCray
- Dr. Veronica McEachin
- Carolyn Miller
- Vacant (SCB)
- Chief E. Puge Reynolds
- Dr. Lalita Rogers
- Jorge Sousa
- Katraya Williams
- Regina Winn
- Sheila Swift
- Tiffany Varner
- Linzola Winzer, Recording Secretary